

REMARKS

Claim 1 currently appears in this application. The Office Action of May 7, 2008, has been carefully studied. This claim defines novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Interview Summary

Applicant's attorney wishes to thank Examiner Chandrakumar for the courtesies extended during the telephone interviews of April 17 and 29, 2008. During the April 17 telephone interview Examiner Chandrakumar stated that claim 1 is too vague in than it claims an amine compound but does not give the formula of the amine compound, and reacting formula 2 with formula 3 would not yield a compound having the structure of formula 1. Examiner Chandrakumar suggested claiming only the compounds listed on pages 10-26 of the specification, or, in the alternative, if a general formula for these compounds could be presented.

When the undersigned telephoned Examiner Chandrakumar April 29, 2008, to discuss why claim 1 is not vague, Examiner Chandrakumar said that he would issue an Office Action to which applicant could respond in detail.

Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended so that the claimed amine compound is defined by its properties, such as absorption maximum, etc. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification as filed at page 9, first full paragraph. Claim 1 has been further amended to add a proviso with respect to the substituents R^2 to R^5 in order to exclude monovalent substituents. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at pages 10-26 in Chemical Formulae 1-50.

In addition, the phrase "one or more" with respect to the coumarin residues in the definition of General formula 1 has been replaced with the phrase, "one, two or three" so as to make the subject matter claimed more definite.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner states that it is not clear what rings are formed when monovalent substituents such as halogen, hydroxyl, cyano, etc. are substituents and if they form rings.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. The present amendment defines R^2 to R^5 in General Formula 1 by adding the proviso so as to exclude monovalent substituents when neighboring two of R^2 to R^5 couple to each other to form rings.

The Eisner further states that, while the bonding of the chormenone to para-positions with respect to nitrogen is defined, it is not pictured in the claimed formula (General Formula 1).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

In General Formula 1 there are three para positions with respect to the nitrogen and "one, two or three coumarin residue(s) bind to the paraposition(s)" as recited in claim 1. It is difficult to identify in General Formula 1 the para positions(s) when one or two coumarin residue(s) bind to one or two of the three para-positions. Therefore, the position where a coumarin residue binds to a benzene group in General Formula 1 is not identified. As such, it is respectfully submitted that General Formula 1 is proper, and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

It is not understood what is meant by the statement, The depiction of chemical formulae with the names over and below the structure is inconsistent for the three formulae and

thus it is unclear which General Formula corresponds to which structure" at page 2, lines 3 and 4 from the bottom of the page.

The present amendment places the formula name above each formula so that there is consistency. In the formula names, confusion may have arisen from the fact that "General Formula 3:" appears just above General Formula 1, the description of which appeared below the formula. The present amendment places the description "General Formula 1:" above the actual formula.

Claim 1 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, for lack of enablement.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claim 1 has been amended further to limit the claimed amine compound with its absorption maximum, molecular sorption coefficient, fluorescence maximum, decomposition point, and glass transition point. Moreover, claim 1 defines the amine compound with the process for producing the same. The specification discloses many examples of the amine compounds, as Chemical Formulae 1-50 and provides guidance for producing them at page 26, last line to page 29, line 12. Additionally, the specification explains in detail the process for producing the amine compounds at pages 45-49, Examples 1-4, as follows:

Although the amine compounds of this invention, including those represented by Chemical Formulae 1 to 50, are slightly different in starting reaction conditions and yields dependently on their structures, they can be obtained by the methods in Examples 1 to 4 or in accordance therewith.

It is respectfully submitted that the above disclosures in the specification provide sufficient guidance for one skilled in the art for preparing the amine compounds as claimed.

Art Rejections

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bader et al. and Yoshio et al. as previously cited.

This rejection is respectfully traversed. As noted above, claim 1 has further limited the compounds by their various properties, including absorption maximum, molecular absorption coefficient, fluorescence maximum, decomposition point and glass transition point. Neither Bader nor Yoshio discloses the amine compound as defined in amended claim 1. It is therefore believed that claim 1 as amended is not obvious over Bader et al. and/or Yoshio et al.

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In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted
that claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, and favorable
action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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